

# Gerald L. Darling

Chief of Student Services  
Shelby County Schools



Chief Gerald L. Darling joined the Shelby County Schools Department of School Safety, Security and Emergency Management (*formerly Memphis City Schools*) after 28 years of diverse law enforcement experience. Prior to his selection as Chief of Security for the school district, Chief Darling served as Chief of Police for the Miami-Dade School District from July 2004 until August 2008. Under his leadership, the Miami-Dade School District was recognized and commended for addressing the disproportionate arrest rate of minority youth in the Miami-Dade School District. Chief Darling's effort in developing and implementing the Civil Citation Program in the Miami-Dade Schools was recognized as a best practice and national model by the White House in 2008. As Chief of Miami-Dade Schools, Chief Darling established the accountability based crime reduction model and established a county-wide gang task force.

As Chief of Student Services, Chief Darling has been instrumental in a continued reduction in major incidents of crime with Shelby County Schools. Under Chief Darling's Leadership, the school district has been recognized nationally by the Department of Justice for its innovative efforts in reducing crime and school incidents. The Security Services Division was awarded the Exemplary Schools Safety Award as the best in the country in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2015 by the School Safety Advocacy Council. The school district was also selected as one of only six cities to participate in the Department of Justice National Forum on Youth Violence Crime Reduction Plan along with the City of Memphis.

While serving as Assistant Chief of Police for the Miami Police Department, Chief Darling was instrumental in addressing the problem areas with the Miami Police Department and was credited with bringing stability to the police force through his strong leadership. He advanced through the ranks and served in numerous areas to include Administration, Field Operations and Investigation Divisions. Before retiring as Assistant Chief of the Criminal Investigation Division, Chief Darling's responsibility was overseeing all investigations and collaborating with all state and federal investigative agencies.

Chief Darling is one of the few Police Chiefs who has attended and earned a certificate from the Harvard School of Educational Leadership. He earned a Master of Science Degree in Management and Public Administration from St. Thomas University and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from Fort Valley State University. He holds memberships in various civic organizations, and is well-known and respected throughout the law enforcement community nationally and internationally.

Chief Darling is also a graduate of the most prestigious law enforcement management schools in the country such as the Police Executive Research Forum, Boston University, Boston Massachusetts, and the Southern Police Institute University of Louisville in Louisville Kentucky. He has been identified nationally and internationally for his innovative approaches to law enforcement and law enforcement management. Chief Darling has been invited to speak and train throughout the Caribbean and the United Kingdom and was invited personally by the Minister of Defense of Trinidad and Tobago to assist and evaluate the implementation of the COMSTAT crime reduction process for the Trinidad and Tobago Police Department.

Chief Darling's comprehensive approach to crime reduction has been published several times in The School Discipline Report and the Peace Builders Magazine.

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## Paul Morris

Paul Morris is a lawyer and the president of his family's small business, Jack Morris Auto Glass. Paul is married to Mary Morris, a law professor at the University of Memphis. They live in Midtown Memphis with their two young children.

Paul serves on the boards of several nonprofits, including Regional One Health, the Community Alliance for the Homeless, Neighborhood Preservation, Inc., and Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal School. Paul is currently co-chairing the transition team for Shelby County Mayor Lee Harris.

Paul formerly chaired the then-named Center City Commission, now known as the Downtown Memphis Commission (DMC). After chairing the board, Paul served as president of the DMC from 2010 through 2015. During his tenure, the DMC facilitated the redevelopments of One Commerce Square, The Chisca, the James Lee House, the Tennessee Brewery, and the South Main neighborhood.

Paul served for three years, 2014-2016, as the Manager of the Beale Street Entertainment District. Also on behalf of the City of Memphis, Paul directed the Main-to-Main Project, a \$40 million, 10-mile bike and pedestrian public infrastructure project featuring the Big River Crossing over the Mississippi River as its centerpiece.

Before joining the DMC staff, Paul was a director and shareholder of the Martin Tate law firm, where he focused on intellectual property law, commercial litigation, and the general representation of small businesses. Before Martin Tate, he practiced law in New York City for the large international law firm O'Melveny & Myers. He is still licensed to practice law in New York, as well as Tennessee. His first job out of law school was as a judicial law clerk for federal judge Julia Gibbons, whom he served when she was the Chief Judge of the Western District of Tennessee and again when she was elevated to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

Paul has been included in Memphis Magazine's Who's Who in Memphis list, Memphis Business Journal's "Top 40 Under 40", and has received awards for his *pro bono* legal services in New York and Memphis. Paul served three years as president of the board of Memphis Area Legal Services.

Paul graduated *magna cum laude* from Vanderbilt University School of Engineering, where he majored in civil engineering with a minor in political philosophy. He also graduated from Vanderbilt's School of Law, where he served on the editorial staff of the Law Review.

**Vinessa Brown** is the co-founder and Director of Operations of LifeLine to Success, a reentry program for ex-offenders that equips them with the necessary tools to reenter society. Vinessa Brown helped create LifeLine to Success because she supported her husband's reentry, after 25 months in state and federal prison. In addition, Vinessa grew up learning that her family (Uncles and Cousins) on the east coast were in and out of prison. Never knowing that continuing to love her family and husband she would help build an awesome program. A program dedicated solely to streamlining the re-entry process and advocating for justice.

Vinessa and her husband, DeAndre successfully spearheaded the first phase of the "Ban the Box" movement in Memphis. The City of Memphis no longer discriminates against ex-offenders. Their clients have also formed the Blight Patrol, to fight blight in Memphis. Vinessa is on the Board of Directors for the Libertas School of Memphis (first public Montessori school in a low-income area) and the Tennessee Community Resource Board where she was elected by the Commissioner of Correction to represent West Tennessee. Vinessa is also active with reentry efforts in California, New York, Georgia and South Carolina. Traveling supporting her husband at speaking engagements and conferences, Vinessa listens and collects material to support making a change in Memphis. Plus, she is always excited to share the work of LifeLine helping other programs give their participants what they need to be successful.

The daughter of Vinson and Jewel Hudson, Vinessa is the youngest of three children. Her parents love extended to support other children, which increased the fold. With degrees in Psychology, Sociology, Business Management, Business Administration and Logistics, Vinessa has been able to move to many different states to help her inner growth. She is also a PROUD Stanford Cardinal, an easy choice since she lived on campus as a youth while her father gained his degree.

Vinessa and DeAndre have (8) eight awesome children, Kaneetra, DeAndre, Jr., Malcolm, Julius, Jarius, Micah, Jewel, and Joshua. And one grandson, Vinson. She is the First Lady of LifeLine to a Dying World Ministries, a place that teaches the Word of God. In her spare time she enjoys sporting events with her husband and family; or just finding a quiet place to read.





Special Agent in Charge (SAC) M. A. (Mo) Myers received his appointment as a Special Agent in June 1996 and following completion of training was assigned to the Miami Field Office. While serving in Miami, SAC Myers primarily worked Counterintelligence (CI) matters, however, he also worked Gang as well as Cyber matters. SAC Myers served on Miami's SWAT Team from 1999 to 2004.

In 2004, SAC Myers was selected for a specialty transfer to the Richmond Field Office. SAC Myers was selected for this transfer after conducting numerous complex CI operations involving the most sophisticated investigative techniques available as well as several successful extraterritorial operations with the FBI's Intelligence Community partners.

In 2007, SAC Myers was promoted to Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) for the Richmond Field Office's Field Intelligence Group (FIG) after serving as the acting SSA for the CI squad for an extended period of time. In 2010, SAC Myers was tasked to return to the CI squad where he served until his promotion to the FBI's National Security Branch at FBI Headquarters in 2011. While serving as the Unit Chief for Policy and Strategy, SAC Myers was responsible for enterprise wide policy formulation, national security strategy, and providing support to the FBI's Executive Assistant Director/National Security Branch.

In 2014, SAC Myers was promoted to Assistant Special Agent in Charge Oklahoma City Field Office where he was responsible for the Intelligence/Support Services Branch which included, HUMINT, Aviation and Surveillance, Weapons of Mass Destruction, Technical Matters (ITS, ET, TTA, and CS), Crisis Management, Applicants, Foreign Language, Undercover Operations and Media.

In 2016, SAC Myers entered the Senior Executive Service (SES) as Chief of the Instruction Section, Training Division, which is responsible for all instruction given to new Special Agents and Intelligence Analysts via the Basic Field Training Course (BFTC), Staff Operations Specialists, and National Academy participants. The section also serves as the armory for the FBI enterprise, conducts ballistics research, and certifies various FBI instructors.

In 2018, Director Wray promoted SAC Myers to his current position as SAC of the Memphis Field Office.

SAC Myers is a native of Florence County, South Carolina, and a 1990 graduate of the University of South Carolina, where he received a Bachelor's degree in Economics. He later received a Master's Degree in Organizational Leadership from Norwich University in 2009. Prior to joining the FBI, SAC Myers was a state Probation/Parole Agent in Columbia, South Carolina.





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# David B. Rausch

## Director

*Tennessee Bureau of Investigation*

Director David B. Rausch was born in Louisville, Kentucky. He earned his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 1986 and his Master of Science in Justice Administration in 2001, both from the University of Louisville. He was enlisted and served in the United States Army Military Police Corps from 1986 to 1990, where he attained the rank of Sergeant. He served for 25 years in the Knoxville Police Department, from 1993 to 2018, and served his last 7 years as Chief of Police. He also served on the department's Special Operations Squad (SWAT Team) for 10 years from 1997 to 2007. In June 2018, Governor Bill Haslam appointed Rausch to serve as the 9th Director of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation.

Director Rausch is a graduate of several prestigious law enforcement and leadership training programs, including the 105th Administrative Officers Course of the Southern Police Institute, the FBI 218th National Academy, the FBI Tennessee Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar, the Police Executive Research Forum 40th Senior Management Institute for Police, the FBI Leadership in Counter Terrorism Course Atlantic Session, the FBI 36th National Executive Institute, the United States Secret Service Executive Protection Seminar, the United States Army War College Commandant's National Security Program, Leadership Knoxville, and Leadership Tennessee.

Director Rausch has served in leadership roles for numerous community and professional service organizations, including the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas, the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police, Leadership Knoxville, the Knoxville Change Center, the Trinity Health Foundation, the Volunteer Ministry Center Knoxville, the Knoxville Metro Drug Coalition, the Mental Health Association of East Tennessee, the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley, and the University of Tennessee Law Enforcement Innovation Center.

As a law enforcement leader with more than 30 years of experience, Rausch is also a sought-after instructor on a variety of law enforcement topics for both sworn and non-sworn personnel throughout the U.S. Rausch worked with the U.S. Department of State on training Commanders from the Jamaican Constabulary Forces in Kingston, Jamaica on Tactical Responses to Terrorism. He also serves as an Adjunct Faculty member of Bethel University's College of Professional Studies Online Criminal Justice Program.

Director Rausch has served as an advisor to legislators on the local, state, and federal level, including the Governor of Tennessee, members of Congress, Senators, and Executive Staff members to the past two Presidential administrations. He has helped draft, support, pass, and defeat significant legislation at all levels of government that impact the safety of communities.

Director Rausch strives to be a servant leader and embraces the seven pillars of Servant Leadership. He desires to live as a person of character who puts people first and, as a skilled communicator and compassionate collaborator, has a keen foresight as a systems thinker who leads with moral authority.



Floyd Bonner, Jr, is a lifelong resident of the Memphis and Shelby County area. As a second-generation law enforcement officer, Bonner followed the career path of his father who retired from the Memphis Police Department and the Shelby County Sheriff's Office. He grew up understanding the importance of serving the community and being on the right side of the law.

As proud graduated of Hillcrest High School, Bonner took steps to becoming a law enforcement officer. He attended and successfully earned an Associate degree in Psychology from Jackson State Community College. He completed his academic studies at the at the University of Memphis with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice. Recently, he completed the Police Leadership Graduate Program, 136th Administrative Officer Course, at the Southern Police Institute (SPI), Department of Criminal Justice, College of Arts and Science, University of Louisville, and was recognized as a Dean's Scholar.

His law enforcement career began with the Shelby County Sheriff's Office in 1980 as a Deputy Sheriff in the Jail Division. He served and protected our community during his assignment in Uniformed Patrol Division, working undercover in the Narcotics Division and throughout his career. He was promoted and served in every supervisory rank within the Sheriff's Office as follows: Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain, and Inspector. The current Sheriff, William "Bill" Oldham, appointed him as Assistant Chief Deputy.

In addition, Sheriff Oldham appointed him into the rank of Chief Deputy becoming the first African American to fill the position. Bonner received extensive law enforcement and leadership development training throughout his career.

Bonner is the husband of one wife, Audrey, for the last 35 years. They have two sons, Floyd III and Elliot, who completed their college education and are productive self-sufficient citizens. Recently, they became first-time grandparents with the birth of twins as new additions to the family.



In 2014, Lee Harris was elected to the State Senate, becoming the youngest senator in the state of Tennessee. Other Democratic senators selected him as Senate Minority Leader, making him the first African American leader of the state senate in Tennessee history.

Among his legislative initiatives, he has pushed for treatment coverage for persons with sickle cell, a condition that plagues communities across the state; advocated for new laws to protect children from abuse; fought for expansion of recycling and environmentally-friendly practices in state government; championed new laws to reform our criminal justice system; helped create system to ensure immediate public notification if lead is found in drinking water; and worked to expand community college scholarships for students with learning disabilities.

Before the Tennessee General Assembly, Lee Harris Led on the Memphis City Council.

Prior to the 2014 election, Harris served on the Memphis City Council. Among other accomplishments, Harris was a leader in the fight for a new citywide non-discrimination ordinance. He led the charge to preserve and redevelop city museums and historic structures in Victorian Village, one of the city's oldest neighborhoods. When Kellogg management failed to deal fairly with its Memphis workers, he joined the picket line and camped out in front of Memphis' Kellogg plant to draw attention to the injustice. Finally, in an effort to expand pedestrian and motorist safety, he has worked to improve streets, sidewalks and bike paths.

Throughout his political career, Senator Harris has been an unwavering voice for neighborhoods, gun safety, environmental protections, broad anti-discrimination laws, respect for reproductive freedom and privacy, and a strong middle class. He was won numerous awards because of his work in politics and government, including selection to the prestigious Aspen-Rodel Fellows program and as a New Deal Leader.

Lee Harris is an Educator. Senator Harris is a tenured full professor of law at the University of Memphis Law School. He is believed to be the only African-American to achieve that rank in the history of the Law School and he is the inaugural holder of the Federal Express Professorship in Law. He is the author of two textbooks. An active member of the faculty, Lee also spent a semester starting a legal clinic to give free legal advice and support to small businessmen and women in Memphis.

Lee Harris is a Proud Product of the Memphis City Schools. He earned his undergraduate degree from Morehouse and his law degree from Yale. More importantly, Senator Harris is a proud product of the Memphis City Schools (Alcy Elem., John P. Freeman Middle, and Overton High). Senator Harris is married to Prof. Alena Allen. They have two children, Lee Allen Harris (12) and Claudia Harris (9).

# Biography

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## Stevie Moore

Stevie Moore is an ex-felon who has served time in several penal institutions for selling drugs. He has successfully transformed his life and is now a local businessman, political consultant, community activist, and a devoted Christian where he serves as a deacon in his church and is married with five children. He dedicates himself to motivating individuals to overcome negative influences in their lives. Stevie's strengths are marketing, mediating and counseling, and working collaboratively to provide holistic solutions to the issues of poverty, lack and negative influences that affect the quality of life for urban youth and young adults.

He and his wife are business owners of Turning Point, Inc. which offers an array of services that include consulting, counseling, motivational speaking, project management, and referral services. He helps ex-offenders re-enter into society by assisting them in getting food assistance, identification, social security, employment and, counseling. He has written "The Daily Survival Plan", an intervention and prevention program to reach youth and help ex-offenders re-enter society as productive citizens.

In 1983, he founded Freedom From Unnecessary Negatives (F.F.U.N.), a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization to provide holistic alternatives for youth and young adults to deter them from crime and negative behavior. F.F.U.N. started the "Stop the Killing" initiative in 2003 when his son, Prentice, was tragically killed after leaving the now-closed Denim and Diamonds Club. Stevie and F.F.U.N. volunteers host "Stop the Killing" initiatives in economically distressed communities throughout Memphis and Shelby County to unite residents with victims and offenders, political and spiritual leaders, the business community, and grassroots organizations to result in safer communities and economically empowered urban families.

He has received recognition for his volunteer efforts by many noteworthy organizations and government entities (local, state and federal). On June 19th, 2007, he won the prestigious national Jefferson Awards in recognition for outstanding public service - selected from 30,000 nominations. Local recognition includes United States Congressman Steve Cohen, Shelby County Mayor AC Wharton, Shelby County Board of Commissioners, Memphis City Council, Shelby County Sheriff Mark Luttrell, Jr., and School Board Commissioners for his outstanding contributions to the community.



## **PASTOR JAMES E. KIRKWOOD**



### **MCPN Executive Director**

Pastor James Earl Kirkwood is the Executive Director of the Memphis Christian Pastors Network. In this position he works to bring unity and collaborations among the churches of our great city to be the Salt and Light our city needs. He is a native Memphian who is the husband to Beverly, father, grandfather, son, brother, friend and most of all a servant.

Pastor Kirkwood is well known in our city as MPD's Colonel Kirkwood.

He joined the Memphis Police Department in 1985 and rose through the ranks of the department to Colonel before retiring after serving the community for 31 years and 11 months. In that role, he established relationships with neighborhood churches with a dutiful intention to address many of the problems that plague our community.

Pastor James Kirkwood has journeyed in this life for 58 years. He has come to know and understand that God has given His people many gifts; however, the most precious of the gifts are salvation, family, and purpose.



**MEMPHIS SHELBY CRIME COMMISSION  
PROPOSED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS  
2018-2019**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

- Ben Adams
- Johnny Moore
- Terry Harris
- Blair Taylor
- Ryan Ehrhart
- Jeffrey Higgs
- John Dudas

**OFFICERS:**

- President – Bill Gibbons
- Board chair – Ben Adams
- Secretary – Blair Taylor
- Treasurer – Johnny Moore